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On 26 November 2001

TOWNSEND and TOWNSEND and CREW LLP

By: Eugenia Jarnt-Jackowski

OIPE JC53 JAN 17 2002 PATENT & TRADEMARK OFFICE

PATENT
Attorney Docket No.: 18062G-002010
Client Reference No.: UC 99-361-4

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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of:

Jonathan A. Ellman, *et al.*

Application No.: 09/534,706

Filed: March 24, 2000

For: METHODS FOR TREATING NEURODEGENERATIVE DISORDERS USING ASPARTYL PROTEASE INHIBITORS

Examiner: T. McKenzie

Art Unit: 1624

AMENDMENT

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

This Amendment is submitted in response to the Office Action mailed May 24, 2001. A Petition for a three-month extension of time is submitted concurrently herewith in a separate paper to extend the time for response to on or before November 24, 2001, which is a Saturday, making the response due on or before November 26, 2001. Applicants respectfully request reconsideration and further examination of the above-referenced patent application in view of the amendments and remarks presented herein.

Please amend the above-identified application as follows:

IN THE ABSTRACT:

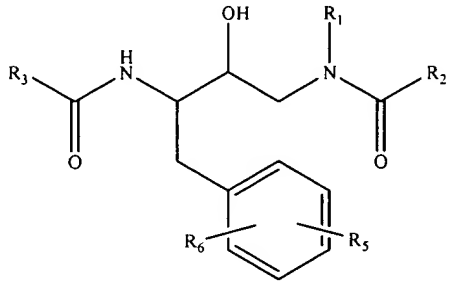
Please replace the abstract of the disclosure, which begins at page 83, line 5, with the following rewritten abstract:

--The present invention relates to (i) non-peptide aspartyl protease inhibitors; (ii) methods for modulating the processing of an amyloid precursor protein (APP); (iii) methods for modulating the processing of a tau protein (τ-protein); and (iv) methods for treating neurodegenerative diseases. For instance, in one embodiment, the present invention provides a

A1

method for modulating the processing of an amyloid precursor protein (APP), the method comprising contacting a composition containing the APP with an aspartyl protease inhibitor having the formula:

A1



wherein:

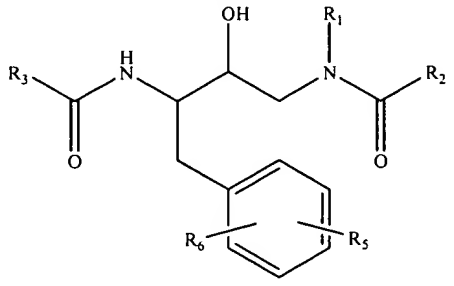
R_1, R_2 and R_3 are members independently selected from the group consisting of alkyl, substituted alkyl, aryl, substituted aryl, arylalkyl, substituted arylalkyl, aryloxyalkyl, substituted aryloxyalkyl, heteroaryl, substituted heteroaryl, heteroarylalkyl, substituted heteroarylalkyl, heterocycles, substituted heterocycles, heterocyclicalkyl and substituted heterocyclicalkyl; and R_5 and R_6 are independently selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, halogen, alkyl, substituted alkyl, aryl, substituted aryl, arylalkyl, substituted arylalkyl, aryloxyalkyl and substituted aryloxyalkyl; or R_5 and R_6 and the carbons to which they are bound join to form an optionally substituted carbocyclic or heterocyclic fused ring system having a total of 9- or 10-ring atoms within the fused ring system.--

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please amend claims 1, 5, 19, 23, 36 and 43 as follows:

1. (Amended) A method for modulating the processing of an amyloid precursor protein (APP), said method comprising contacting a composition containing said APP with an aspartyl protease inhibitor having the formula:

A2



(I)

wherein: